

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*A History of American Life.* ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER, DIXON RYAN FOX, editors. In twelve volumes. Volume 2: *The First Americans, 1607-1690.* By THOMAS JEFFERSON WERTENBAKER, Edwards professor of American history, Princeton University. Volume 3: *Provincial Society, 1690-1763.* By JAMES TRUSLOW ADAMS, LL.D., LITT.D. Volume 6: *The Rise of the Common Man, 1830-1850.* By CARL RUSSELL FISH, professor of history, University of Wisconsin. Volume 8: *The Emergence of Modern America, 1865-1878.* By ALLAN NEVINS, professor of American history, Cornell University; sometime editorial associate on the New York World. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1927. xx, 358; xvii, 374; xix, 391; xix, 446 p. Illustrations.)

The broadening of the scope of history to include the activities of the people as well as those of their rulers; social, economic, and cultural developments as well as political, constitutional, and military; and description of conditions and interpretation of changes as well as narration of events has been going on for half a century at least. Nevertheless, in spite of much monographic work in these new fields, the writers of general histories of the United States have as a rule paid little attention to social and economic matters except as aids in interpreting political developments. The editors and authors of the work under review have gone to the other extreme and are producing a history that ignores "the story of political and constitutional development, except in so far as it directly affects the life and thought of the day." This exception, of course, is a very elastic one, and most of the authors take considerable advantage of it. Nevertheless the state, which after all is the principal unifying factor in modern nations and greatly influences developments in all other fields of human endeavor, receives little consideration; and the authors have difficulty in giving unity and coherence to their work. The volumes contain a wealth of new information, they are remarkably well written, the pictures they present of various aspects of the American

scene at different times are fascinating reading, and they will be a great boon to the teacher or student in search of supplementary material. So much of the ordinary narrative is omitted, however, that the reader who is not familiar with the main outline of events in American history will have difficulty in keeping his bearings. The series will provide a much needed complement to such histories as the *American Nation*, and it should help to pave the way for the ultimate production of an extensive history of the United States in which all phases of the development of the nation and its people will be brought into a single synthesis.

Professor Wertenbaker in his first chapter points out that the English colonies had their origin in the economic needs of the mother country but that this influence was quickly subordinated to that of the American environment. Economic and general social conditions in the tobacco colonies and in New England are described in the next two chapters, the conclusions being reached that the diversity between the two groups resulted from differences not in the settlers but in the environment; that the economic system of the southern colonies in the seventeenth century "was based chiefly upon the labor of free citizens who tilled their own soil"; and that, despite class distinctions, New England's economic and social system was essentially democratic. The chapters that follow deal with religion and the church, the witchcraft delusion, medical practices, morality, punishments, intellectual beginnings, amusements, and architecture. In each chapter the American scene is depicted against its European background, but most of the pictures are essentially static and the reader gets little impression of the changes that were taking place throughout the century or of the processes by which the American environment effected those changes. This lack is compensated for in part by the last chapter, which sums up "The Progress of a Century," and includes some discussion of the influences of the frontier and the Indian upon the colonies. In this connection, the importance of the fur trade is recognized in the statement that it "laid the foundation of some of the colonies," but nowhere is there any adequate account of this industry; and the differentiation of the frontier that was taking place in each of the older colonies before the end of the century receives little consideration.

Dr. Adams is more successful than Professor Wertenbaker in giving the reader an impression of unity and continuous development. This is due in part of course to the fact that there was more unity and more development in the eighteenth than in the seventeenth century, but it results also from his differentiation of successive periods, his greater use of narration, and his remarkable literary skill. The first chapter describes "The Structure of Society" in the last decade of the seventeenth century, indicates the elements and distribution of the population and the character of the institutions, and brings out the broad underlying uniformity of institutions, despite local variations. The five chapters that follow present pictures of economic, social, intellectual, and cultural conditions in the period from 1690 to 1713, after which four chapters are devoted to a consideration of the changes that took place in the period from 1713 to 1745. The first of this latter group of chapters, entitled "New Blood," is a very valuable discussion of the immigration of non-English peoples, of the advance of the frontier, and of the transforming effects of these related movements; the development of great estates in the South and "The Commercialization of the North," with resultant social cleavage in both sections, are dealt with in separate chapters; and the last chapter of the group discusses the rise of a colonial culture in the place of the transplanted European culture that had largely disappeared. In the final chapter, which deals with the period from 1745 to 1763, one sees an American people emerging despite intercolonial differences and sectional and group antagonisms within each colony.

Professor Fish's volume contains more narration of events and more discussion of affairs of state than any of the others, and that fact together with the author's sparkling style makes it very readable. Unity is achieved by relating everything to the central theme, *The Rise of the Common Man*, and by the device of considering the period as that of a single generation that came on the stage about 1830 and passed off twenty years later. The volume opens with a survey of the outstanding characteristics of this generation, such as Americanism, hustling, optimism, inventiveness, reverence for the Constitution, individualism, and passion for equality, education, and reform. Chapter 2 depicts conditions

at the beginning of the period and chapter 3 describes the "Aims and Methods" of those who sought to transform them. Succeeding chapters deal with agriculture and transportation, commerce and industry, immigration and the frontier, "Manners and Morals," political methods, religion, education, culture, and "Reform and Slavery." Each of these chapters spans the whole period, but the emphasis is upon the changes that were taking place. Two chapters are devoted to the expansion of the country, the California gold rush, and the Compromise of 1850; and the final chapter is "The Balance Sheet" of conditions at the end as compared with those at the beginning of the period. The statement on page 91 that "population more than doubled" between 1830 and 1850 and imports "increased at a lesser rate" seems to be inconsistent with the statistics of imports given in a note at the bottom of the page and with the population statistics given on page 110; and it is difficult to reconcile statements that "the presentation of 'morals' . . . was tabooed" (p. 152) and that "morals were . . . the subject of hot controversy and debate" (p. 162).

Professor Nevins divides his brief period of thirteen years into two parts with 1873 as the transition year. The first half of the book contains chapters on economic conditions from 1865 to 1873 in the South, the North, and the West; one chapter on city life and improvements in railway transportation; and three chapters, largely narrative, on the Indian wars and the advance of the frontier, the Granger movement, and the scandals in government and business. Literary and artistic developments and educational progress during both periods are dealt with in two very valuable chapters significantly entitled "The Broadening of American Culture" and "The Deepening of American Culture"; one chapter combines accounts of the panic of 1873 and the Centennial Exposition; another discusses reform movements; and the last two chapters deal with the recovery of the South and the West from reconstruction and depression and with the labor movement from 1873 to 1878. By emphasizing changes in conditions and new developments the writer is able to create the impression of a transition period and thus seemingly to justify the title. The volume contains some evidences of hasty preparation; for example, the statement that "in Minnesota in 1870 the frontier line of popula-

tion still clung to Lake Michigan on the north, but now it thrust west along the Canadian border" (p. 373). Not only is Lake Michigan some distance from Minnesota, but the frontier thrust after 1870 was not west along the border but north down the Red River Valley. Oliver H. Kelley, rather than William Saunders, was the first Grange organizer (p. 169, 170); discriminatory rates were usually extorted from the railroads by the "interests" rather than granted to curry favor with them (p. 164); the decision of the Supreme Court in *Munn vs. Illinois* was not so broad as is indicated (p. 176); and it would seem that "a corner in pork" would raise rather than lower prices (p. 165). If the characterization of Roosevelt as "the greatest of cowboys" (p. 133) means that he excelled all others as a cowboy, it is certainly an exaggeration.

The format of the work is unusual and attractive, and numerous pictures, carefully selected and amply described and identified by the editors, illustrate the volumes. Sources of information are indicated briefly in footnotes and each volume is supplied with an analytical index. An especially valuable feature is the inclusion in each volume of an extensive "Critical Essay on Authorities." When the work is completed, these essays will probably constitute the best available bibliography of American history.

Minnesota first makes its appearance in these volumes in the one by Professor Fish. He refers to the spread of the New England element into Minnesota (p. 123), although it had barely begun in 1850, he tells of the filibustering expedition of James Dickson across the northern part of the state in 1836 (p. 294), and he commends the publication by the Minnesota Historical Society of material illustrative of the activities "of secondary and of obscure individuals" (p. 344). Naturally Professor Nevins has more to say about Minnesota. He discusses the development of flour-milling in the state (p. 38), Swedish immigration (p. 49), railroad promotion (p. 57, 404), bonanza farming (p. 120), state promotion of immigration (p. 121), and the Granger movement and the Anti-monopoly party (p. 169-177).

The appearance of the remaining volumes of the series will be awaited with keen anticipation by those who have read the first installment.

SOLON J. BUCK

*The Journal of Henry Kelsey (1691-1692), The first white man to reach the Saskatchewan River from Hudson Bay, and the first to see the Buffalo and Grizzly Bear of the Canadian Plains—with notes on some other experiences of the man* (The Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, *Transactions*, new series, no. 4). By CHARLES NAPIER BELL, LL.D., F.R.G.S. (Winnipeg, Dawson Richardson Publications, Limited, 1928. 43 p. Illustrations, maps.)

Dr. Bell has devoted most of this pamphlet to proving that the Deering's Point mentioned in Kelsey's journal is a certain neck of land between Cedar Lake and Lake Winnipegosis near the mouth of the Saskatchewan River. A determination of this point is decidedly worth while because Kelsey was apparently the first white man to penetrate into the region west of Lake Winnipeg and almost no other clue to his route is discoverable. In his decision Dr. Bell has been aided greatly by the discovery of new Kelsey papers in Belfast, Ireland. These include another version of the journal than that found in the report of a parliamentary committee of 1749 investigating the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company; a rhymed preface; and "a lengthy description of the customs, habits and superstitions of the Assiniboine and Cree Indians."

One of the pamphlet's chief virtues is its numerous reproductions of maps. Several of these are very rare, such as Thomas Conder's map of 1750 and H. Jaillot's of 1696. From the fact that several of these rare pieces are in Dr. Bell's own collection, and from other references to his manuscripts and pamphlets, one is led to speculate on the probable value of his library to students of western history and to wish that a descriptive catalogue of it might be published.

G. L. N.

*Rapport de l'archiviste de la province de Québec pour 1926-1927.* ([Quebec], L.-Amable Proulx, 1927. xiii, 434 p. Facsimiles.)

The main contents of this scholarly report are: (1) the correspondence that passed between the French court and Frontenac, governor of New France, during his first administration, from

1672 to 1682; (2) the papers of Ludger Duvernay; (3) the correspondence of Jean-Pierre Aulneau, his family, and friends; and (4) the field books of Joseph-Gaspard Chaussegros de Léry, a royal engineer, during the French and Indian wars.

Most of the letters in the first group have not been published before. Knowledge of this fact adds piquancy, therefore, to the reading of letters that relate to Radisson, Groseilliers, La Salle, Tonty, Jolliet, Du Luth, La Vérendrye, and many other familiar figures. In the second group one finds a varied correspondence, but for Americans its chief interest centers about the Canadian rebellion of 1837 and the nationalistic movement of the French-Canadians, for which Duvernay was to no slight degree responsible.

Of most immediate interest to Minnesota readers are the letters in the third group. The martyrdom of Father Aulneau on an island in the Lake of the Woods in 1736 has impressed generations of Americans and Canadians. An English translation of most of his family's correspondence just prior to and following this tragic event has been available since 1893, when the Reverend Arthur E. Jones published *The Aulneau Collection, 1734-1745*. One can never be perfectly satisfied with translations, however, and so the publication of the French text of these letters will be welcomed by students of the period.

G. L. N.

*Norwegian Sailors on the Great Lakes: A Study in the History of American Inland Transportation.* By KNUT GJERSET, PH.D., LITT.D., professor of history in Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. (Northfield, Minnesota, The Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1928. xii, 211 p. Illustrations.)

Since its organization in 1926 the Norwegian-American Historical Association has published several volumes of *Studies and Records* and two volumes of a *Travel and Description Series*, and it now presents a new type of contribution to the history of Norwegian life in America in the form of a study of the activities of this national group in a particular New-World industry. Dr.

Gjerset has chosen to describe the Norwegians' accomplishments in a line of endeavor for which these people are peculiarly fitted by their seafaring life abroad, and the result is a narrative of unusual interest to students both of immigration and transportation.

The author traces the development of Norwegian activity on the Great Lakes from the period of the sailing vessel, when the trade centered at the Lake Michigan ports. He points out that it was at this time that the Norwegian sailors attained their greatest success and became both "Shipowners and Shipbuilders." They had a genius for individual activity in navigation and business management, and many of these northern immigrants built up fortunes; but with "The Decline and Disappearance of Lake Sailing Vessels" in the eighties, they showed a lack of ability to organize and cooperate and thus lost their chance "for exercising any marked influence on the development of lake shipping" when the steamship took its place on these waters.

After this decline came the growth of "The Modern Lake Service" centering at Duluth and Superior. In a sense the entire narrative leads up to the account of the development of these great Lake Superior harbors—a story that will perhaps interest Minnesotans in general more than any other portion of the book. The author sketches very briefly the history of the founding of Duluth, of its sudden growth in 1869, and of the first steamers "to run in regular route" to the city in 1870. He notes that these boats brought not only freight and passengers, but throngs of immigrants, many of whom were Scandinavians. On the shores of this inland sea they found the opportunity for another familiar employment, and many of them "established themselves as fishermen along the north shore of Lake Superior from Duluth to the Canadian border, where they have built up a fishing industry of great importance." Numerous others who did not settle on farms or help to build up the cities of Duluth and Superior found employment on the lake steamers, but, according to Dr. Gjerset, the "owner-captain type of earlier days" had disappeared, and the Norwegian sailors henceforth were employed by the large steamship companies.



Several chapters are devoted to biographical sketches of "Norwegian Lake Captains" and, especially among those still "in active service," may be found the names of many Minnesotans.

B. L. H.

*History of Stony Brook Township, from the First Settlement to 1918.* By LOUIS O. FOSS. ([Minneapolis, Augsburg Publishing House, 1920]. 282 p. Illustrations.)

This local history, which was brought out so modestly that it did not come to the attention of the editor of MINNESOTA HISTORY for eight years, is a valuable contribution to the historical literature of Minnesota and the Northwest. It is of importance because it is the story of a community from the earliest days of its settlement down to comparatively recent times. Almost unconsciously, one might say, the book lays bare that drama of events, always fascinating to the student of history, which is connected with the coming of the white man to a new frontier and his development there. Moreover, it is the sort of theme from which an inspired Rølvaag could produce another great epic like *Giants in the Earth*. What chapters that author could write from the materials contained in this book on the great blizzard of 1873, or on the frightful explosion of a steam boiler in 1894, or on many other homely tales of struggling human beings in this rural agricultural community!

Stony Brook Township is located in Grant County, a region in west-central Minnesota. It was settled in 1870 and succeeding years principally by Norwegians, some of whom came directly from Norway, while others arrived after experiences in such places as Winnisheik County, Iowa, or Goodhue County, Minnesota. Its history therefore is largely that of the making of an American community out of a group of Old-World immigrants, and this is brought out in striking fashion by the portraits that illustrate the book. Here again the lesson is an unconscious one and does not seem to have been produced through the deliberate intention of the author. But to the student there is suggested in these contrasting pictures the gradual yet tremendous changes

that have taken place from one generation to another, and perhaps even within the same generation, not only in appearance and in habits of dress, but, we are led to suspect, in habits of mind as well.

The author is himself a part of the story he has told, he owns a farm in the township, and he was at one time probate judge of Grant County. It is through his own experiences and by word of mouth from others that he seems to have collected the larger part of the materials for his work. Still some of the contents reveal at least a measure of contact with recorded sources, as for instance, a roster of officers of the township beginning in 1877, which is apparently complete, and much of the material in a large number of personal biographies, which are not without merit. Incidentally much information is supplied concerning the organization of the township in 1877, the technique used in transacting township business in Minnesota, and the nature of the problems of rural communities.

The *History of Stony Brook Township* is a pioneer work in the field of Minnesota township history, with many of the inadequacies one might naturally expect from such an enterprise, but it is the kind of work that needs to be done for each local community in the way that is most feasible before the larger synthetic results can be achieved. The author has done his bit and deserves commendation.

VERNE E. CHATELAIN

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

A paper entitled "Clarence Walworth Alvord, Historian" was read by the superintendent at a stated meeting of the executive council of the society on October 8. This paper, together with a bibliography of Professor Alvord's writings, will be published in the December number of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.

Thirty-two additions to the active membership of the society have been made during the quarter ending September 30, 1928. The names of the new members grouped by counties, follow:

CARLTON: Clayton J. Dodge of Moose Lake.

CROW WING: Clement A. Ryan of Brainerd.

HENNEPIN: Jefferson Jones of Hopkins; Clinton L. Brooke, Lee B. Byard, Anne G. Faries, Mrs. Alice M. Gould, Dr. Erling W. Hansen, Albert B. Loye, Dr. Jalmar H. Simons, Sister Evangelista Melady, and Paul H. Struck, all of Minneapolis.

KANDIYOH: Mrs. Albin C. Carlson of Willmar.

LAC QUI PARLE: John E. Reyerson of Dawson and Dr. Nels Westby of Madison.

MCLEOD: Rev. Joseph Krenek of Silver Lake.

RAMSEY: Mrs. Lydia C. Funk, M. Gladys Heimes, Stafford King, Francis G. Okie, Mrs. Francis G. Okie, Howard H. Sargent, and Edward N. Saunders, Jr., all of St. Paul.

RICE: Nuba M. Pletcher of Faribault.

ST. LOUIS: Dorothy E. Masson of Duluth.

WINONA: Harry L. Buck of Winona.

NONRESIDENT: Robert K. Boyd of Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Mrs. Lizzie L. Brown of Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Bowers Davis of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Everett E. Edwards and Arthur G. Peterson of Washington, D. C.; and Richard B. Eide of River Falls, Wisconsin.

The society lost seven active members by death during the past quarter: George A. Fay of Duluth, July 22; Thomas B. Walker

of Minneapolis, July 28; James H. Harper of Duluth, August 1; Walter M. Patton of Montreal, August 5; William W. Gilbert of Minneapolis, August 15; and Alfred J. Krank of St. Paul, September 26. The death of Charles A. Smith of Berkeley, California, on December 9, 1925, has not previously been reported in the magazine.

Dr. Buck was absent on leave from July 1 to August 11, being engaged in teaching in the Harvard University summer school. During July Dr. Blegen served as acting superintendent and then departed for Norway (see *ante*, p. 297). The position of assistant superintendent is being filled during his absence by Mr. Verne E. Chatelain, head of the department of history of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Peru and a graduate student in history at the University of Minnesota. Miss Anne Blegen, who served as editorial and office assistant, has resigned to do graduate work at the university.

Before Dr. Blegen departed for Norway he worked out tentative plans for the issues of MINNESOTA HISTORY to be published during his absence. The editorial work is being done, under the direction of the superintendent, by Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, who has served as editorial assistant on the magazine since 1919.

A report of Dr. Blegen's address on "The 'America Letters': Sources for the History of American Immigration," delivered before the International Congress of Historical Sciences at Oslo on August 16, appears with the speaker's portrait on the front page of the important Norwegian daily newspaper, *Tidens Tegn* of Oslo, for August 17. Dr. Blegen is credited with giving "much new information and views" on "one of the most interesting subjects" discussed before the congress. In a summary of his paper attention is called to the significance of the America letters, their influence among the Norwegian peasants of the early nineteenth century who thought of emigrating, the reaction against that influence in the thirties and forties, and the work of collecting these letters. According to the *Tidens Tegn* "Professor Blegen's lecture was received with warm applause by the interested audience." An abstract of the paper is published under the title "Amerikabrev" in *Nordmands-Forbundet* for September.

At a meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies, held in connection with the meeting of the National Education Association in Minneapolis, Dr. Blegen gave an address on "Historical Backgrounds of Minnesota and the Northwest" on July 2. According to Dr. Edgar Dawson, who reports on this meeting in the *Historical Outlook* for October, Dr. Blegen "carried the audience away into the poetic atmosphere of the best that history has to offer. No abstract can do justice to the delightful impression he gave" of his subject. Other talks recently given by members of the staff include one by Dr. Nute on pioneer women in Minnesota before the Country Club Women's Club on September 24, and another by Miss Krausnick on the society's library before the Zonta Club on August 15.

Under the auspices of Hamline University, Dr. Nute inaugurated on October 2 a series of eleven radio talks on Minnesota history given on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 9:15 A.M. over WCCO. It is reported that they are being listened to by over fourteen thousand high school students in the Northwest as part of their opening exercises.

A project that is being developed by Mr. Babcock and Mr. W. H. Shephard of the Minneapolis public schools provides that some twenty-five hundred high school students who are taking courses in community life problems will make two visits—in November and March—to the society's museum in groups of about two hundred to view the collections and listen to illustrated talks by the curator. He will later give a third talk to the same students at a number of the high schools. If this arrangement is continued it may be expected that ultimately every graduate of a Minneapolis high school will have some acquaintance with Minnesota history and with the society's museum.

That the importance of the society's collections is becoming known nationally is indicated by the fact that they were used during the summer by residents of thirteen states and of Canada. In the manuscript division sixty readers were recorded for the quarter ending September 30, and the library, including the newspaper department, served a total of 1,342 readers during the same period.

The society's exhibit at the state fair in September consisted of a large Indian tepee of the type used on the plains and appropriate articles from the museum. Lantern slides from the society's collection were shown in connection with the exhibit.

In September, Dr. Nute made a trip to Houghton, Michigan, to obtain extracts from the diaries of Bishop Frederic Baraga, preserved there in the presbytery of St. Ignatius Church. The three volumes of the diary begin with the year 1852, and from these she made transcripts of the entries that relate to the region around the head of Lake Superior.

Special emphasis is placed upon local archives in an account of "The Preservation of Public Records" by Dr. Nute in *Minnesota Municipalities* for July. What has been done in Massachusetts, where an efficient system of local archives supervision has long been in operation, is first described; the Minnesota acts relating to archives are then explained; and suggestions for improving the local situation in Minnesota conclude the article. "The first need is adequate legislation," according to Dr. Nute. "Then provision should be made for finishing the inventory of local archives. Meantime the local custodians should be informed of the possibility of transferring old records to the custody of the state historical society, thus ensuring their preservation."

A sketch of the history of "Old Fort Snelling" is contributed by Mr. Babcock, curator of the society's museum, to the October issue of the *T. P. A. Travelers Magazine*. "For one hundred and nine years Fort Snelling has stood as the sentinel of the upper Mississippi Valley," writes Mr. Babcock, "and for at least a century of that period the old Round Tower has watched the advance of settlement. It is to be hoped that plans now under consideration for the conversion of this fine old building into a museum may be carried out." A picture of the old tower appears as a frontispiece to the number. Mr. Babcock also is the author of a brief description of "A Minnesota Copper Pike," which appears in the *Wisconsin Archeologist* for July.

The *Minnesota Historical News*, the monthly clip sheet issued by the society, has been used in a unique way in the preparation

of an editorial published in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for July 4 under the title "The Old Time Fourth." Stories printed from year to year in the July issues of the *News* have been cleverly woven together, and the resulting article gives a vivid picture of some of the celebrations staged by explorers, travelers, and settlers in pioneer Minnesota in honor of the nation's birthday.

#### ACCESSIONS

Notable recent accessions of unpublished source material for the pre-territorial period of Minnesota history include photostatic copies of about a thousand letters and other documents among the papers of the American Fur Company, completing the file of material of Minnesota interest in that collection through 1842 (see *ante*, 8:294); about a hundred letters and reports from the archives of the war department relating to Indian affairs, the fur trade, and government explorations in the Minnesota region from 1818 to 1834, a period for which comparatively little detailed information has hitherto been available; and several hundred documents in the archives of the Indian office and in the collections of the Missouri Historical Society and the Historical Department of Iowa concerning Indian affairs and especially missionary activity in the Minnesota country. Recent installments of transcripts of Minnesota material from the papers of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in Boston complete the file of such material through 1844.

A letter written at Belle Prairie, in what is now Morrison County, on May 30, 1853, by Harriet S. Nichols, giving a detailed account of the first five years of the mission school established there in 1848 by Frederick Ayer and his wife, has been presented to the society by Mr. C. E. Whitney of Detroit, Michigan.

Photostatic copies of eight letters written by Bishop Henry B. Whipple, the originals of which are in the Orville Browning Papers in the Illinois Historical Library, have been acquired recently. They reveal the writer's solicitude for the Indians of Minnesota, especially after the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, and form a valuable addition to the society's small collection of Whipple Papers.

Transcripts of two more diaries of Mitchell Young Jackson are being made for the society from the originals loaned for the purpose by his grandson, Mr. R. A. Jackson of Minneapolis (see *ante*, 8:431). These volumes continue the record of Jackson's life from the spring of 1854, when he emigrated from Indiana to Minnesota, to October, 1862. The trip to Lakeland on the shores of Lake St. Croix, planting and harvesting, the weather, the opening and closing of navigation, prices of produce, and similar matters of a more or less routine nature are the subjects of regular entries. Interspersed, however, are the comments of a clear-eyed, intelligent, well-educated man. A variety of interests are reflected, for he tells of church work, of the first farmers' club in the vicinity, of his political activities, of the formation of a library association, of Masonic meetings, of the laying of the cornerstone of a projected building for the Minnesota Historical Society, of the panic of 1857, of a rise in land values that enabled him to make \$3,700 in three years, and of many other matters connected with the pioneer life of his community.

The archives of the Minnesota State Capital Commission, which remained in the custody of one of its members, Channing Seabury of St. Paul, after the commission had finished its work, have been turned over to the society by Mrs. Seabury. The collection includes the correspondence with the architect, Mr. Cass Gilbert, contractors' bids, specifications, and the like, and covers the years from 1898 to 1907. There are also two letter books and numerous pictures, charts, diagrams, designs, books, and pamphlets.

The papers of Harvey Hull Johnson, a prominent pioneer of Winona and Owatonna, have been turned over to the society by his daughter, Mrs. Clarke Chambers of Owatonna and his granddaughter, Mrs. Ernest J. Stiefel of St. Paul. Johnson settled in Minnesota in 1855 and became president of the Transit Railroad Company, one of the roads that received bonds under the provisions of the "Five Million Loan Bill." Many of the papers relate to his activities on behalf of this railroad.

Mr. Robert P. Lewis, a St. Paul real estate dealer who retired recently, has presented papers relating to his activities since he settled in St. Paul in 1859. His business interests are reflected



in a number of tract books and in the bulk of the correspondence in the collection. Many of the letters carry interesting letterheads, which not infrequently include contemporary pictures of business buildings. Among the other papers in the collection are the constitution and minutes of the Union League of St. Paul, a patriotic organization of the Civil War period; a wealth of material on the Presbyterian church and on Macalester College; two volumes of business records of the Clarendon Hotel, of which Mr. Lewis was the proprietor, for the years 1877 and 1878; and a mass of records of the military careers of Minnesota soldiers in the Civil War, compiled by Mr. Lewis when he was a pension agent.

A manuscript "History of the Early Settlement and Development of Polk County, Minnesota," by Huber D. McLellan of La Porte, Indiana, has been presented by the author. This valuable addition to the histories of Minnesota counties was prepared as a master's thesis at Northwestern University. It covers in the introductory chapters such subjects as the Indians, exploration, and the fur trade in this section of the Red River Valley; and later chapters deal with land occupation, transportation, agricultural development, farmers' movements, and the political history of the county.

Copies of papers on "The Discovery of Iron Ore and Development of the Mining Industry at Chisholm, Minnesota," by Willard Bayliss, and on the "History of Chisholm Schools," by J. P. Vaughan, have been presented by the St. Louis County Historical Society.

Three broadsides issued at the time of the Riel rebellion of 1869 and 1870 and relating to that episode in the history of the Red River Valley have been photostated for the society's collection. The originals are owned by Mr. William Douglas of Winnipeg.

Those who have read the appendix on "Lord Gordon Gordon" in volume 3 of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* will be interested to know that a pamphlet of fifty-five pages containing legal documents in the famous contest between Gordon and Jay Gould has been discovered among the Franklin Steele Papers acquired

by the society in 1913. The pamphlet has been turned over to the main library and will be preserved in the treasure room.

Attention was called in an earlier issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY to a description of western Minnesota reprinted in the *Ortonville Independent* from the *American Traveller's Journal* of August, 1881 (see *ante*, p. 308). This interesting magazine has recently been presented to the society by the *Independent*. In addition to the article on pioneer Ortonville and Brown's Valley it contains much valuable information about the Minnesota summer resorts of the period, especially Minnetonka and White Bear. Other resorts also are briefly mentioned; for example Frontenac is described as the "Newport of the Northwest" and is declared to be "one of the loveliest spots conceivable." Accounts of St. Paul and Fort Snelling also are included. The illustrations, showing views of Minnesota lakes and cities and of the railroads and steamboats of the period, are noteworthy.

A file of the *Oberlin Evangelist* for the years 1839 to 1843, containing material about missionary work among the Indians in Minnesota and supplementing the file already in the possession of the society, has been acquired by purchase.

Twenty autograph letters and notes written by district and supreme court justices of Minnesota and professors of Harvard University and a dainty rosewood sewing box, beautifully inlaid and fitted with accessories made of mother-of-pearl, have been presented by Mr. Henry B. Wenzell of Stillwater. The box belonged to the donor's mother, Mrs. Abigail Wenzell née Smart of Boston and Newton and was probably received by her as a wedding present in 1852.

A walnut cradle with a spring attachment for automatic rocking, used by three generations from 1858, is the gift of Mrs. George S. Wilson of Minneapolis. Other recent additions to the domestic life collection include a walnut hat rack and a mahogany sofa of the period of the seventies, from Mrs. Jane O'Brien of St. Paul; a small stand with a spool base, an old-fashioned flatiron, and a pair of fire tongs, from Miss Alberta Lundy and Mrs. Lois Lundy of Minneapolis; a secretary of

cedar, from Mrs. W. H. McMullen of Minneapolis; a rolling pin of black walnut made prior to 1857, from Mrs. George H. Staples of Somerset Heights; and a small blue teacup probably of Canton ware of about 1758, from Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis.

Modern reproductions of a wrought iron crane and a pot hook to hang on it have been presented by Miss Frances Andrews of Minneapolis for use in the fireplace of the museum's pioneer log cabin.

A huge punch bowl said to have been used at a political banquet in Stillwater in territorial days has been received from Mr. E. L. Kernkamp of St. Paul.

A high-wheeled bicycle of the type used about 1890 has been received from Mrs. Georgia F. Blake of St. Paul.

A set of tools used in the manufacture of wooden shoes, a maul, and several other tools of pioneer days have been presented to the society's museum by Mr. John Seibert of Hillman through the courtesy of Dr. James C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

A large stone celt found near Wabasha and presented by Miss Eleanor Hennessy of St. Paul, and a small flint knife of Mandan type from North Dakota, given by Mr. Claus Miller of Gheen, are additions to the archeological collection.

A beaded belt and a carved wooden cane that are said to have belonged to the Sioux chief Little Crow and a beaded ceremonial bag of modern Indian workmanship have been received from Mr. M. B. Bertrang of St. Paul.

A Confederate cap box, a bolt from a heavy shell, and several flattened bullets have been added to the military collection by Mrs. George H. Staples of Somerset Heights.

An interesting old silk banner that was carried in early St. Paul parades by the Butchers' Mutual Benefit Society has been presented by the Retail Meat Dealers Association of St. Paul, through the courtesy of Mr. Charles Eschbach.

Among the recent additions to the museum's costume collection are two old-fashioned bathing dresses, given anonymously; bathing

stockings and slippers, presented by Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis; a wedding gown of 1873, given by Mr. W. H. Shephard of Minneapolis; a number of dresses dating from 1830 to 1870, presented by Mrs. and Miss Lundy and Miss Blanche Hollister, all of Minneapolis; some interesting articles of children's clothing of the periods around 1850 and 1880, from Mrs. W. F. Shaw of Talent, Oregon, and Mrs. Clemens Rahn of Minneapolis; a brocaded silk vest used by Captain Russell Blakeley about 1850, from his daughter, Mrs. Harold P. Bend of St. Paul; and a typical lumber cruiser's Stetson hat, given by Mr. Roy Henning of Minneapolis.

The picture collection has been enriched by the addition of an oil painting of the Falls of St. Anthony made in 1842 by Alexander F. Loemans, received from the estate of the late Miss Emma Loemans of Minneapolis; a lithograph of St. Paul in 1853, from Mrs. Peter M. Holl of Minneapolis; and a collection of pictures of the Northfield bank robbers of 1876, from Mr. E. S. Bromley of Minneapolis.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

A *List of Manuscript Maps in the Edward E. Ayer Collection*, compiled by Clara A. Smith, custodian of the collection, has been issued by the Newberry Library of Chicago (1927. 101 p.). The list, which includes the titles of maps dating from 1425 to 1892, should prove a valuable aid to students "interested in the progress of the geographical knowledge of the world."

A new study of an old subject is made in *Le P. Louis Hennepin, O. F. M., missionnaire au Canada au XVII<sup>e</sup> siècle: quelques jalons pour sa biographie*, by P. Jérôme Goyens, O. F. M. (Quaracchi, Italy, 1925. 66 p.), published as a separate from volume 18 of *L'Archivum franciscanum historicum* (1925). The author states that his study is not intended as "une apologie" but rather as a concise bibliographical review of the subject. It should be noted, however, that an extended review of the book by the Abbé H. A. Scott, published in section 1 of the *Mémoires* of the Royal Society of Canada for May, 1927, bears the title "Un coup d'épée dans l'eau, ou, une nouvelle apologie du P. Louis Hennepin" (p. 113-160). The Abbé Scott asserts that Father Goyens, like Hennepin a Belgian and a Franciscan, "has undertaken to wash" Hennepin's memory of "the disagreeable stains that darken it." The reviewer, in disclosing the numerous inconsistencies and subterfuges of Father Goyens, gives an excellent critical account of Hennepin's life and writings, which is of far greater value than the book itself.

In the issue of the *Canadian Historical Review* for December, 1927, is printed for the first time the agreement entered into by members of the Northwest Company at Grand Portage on July 24, 1790. This document governed the activities of the company for the next eight years and was a landmark in the development of the fur trade. The manuscript original is preserved in the archives of the Seminary of Quebec. Mr. H. A. Innis is responsible for its publication and has supplied seven pages of introduc-

tion. His prefatory remarks give the intricate and hitherto vaguely comprehended history of the organization of the Northwest Company in a summary that will be welcomed by all students of the period.

An article entitled "The Origin of 'Sir Alexander Mackenzie and Company,'" by R. Harvey Fleming, in the *Canadian Historical Review* for June deals with the Northwest and X. Y. companies and makes a valuable contribution to the history of the fur trade during the British period. The September number of the *Review* contains articles on "The Location of Fort Maurepas," by Nellis M. Crouse, and on "The St. Lawrence in the Boundary Settlement of 1783," by George W. Brown. Mr. Crouse presents a useful summary of the operations of La Vérendrye and points out that Fort St. Charles, which was on what is now Minnesota soil, was "La Vérendrye's headquarters during the first period of his work of exploration." He also calls attention to the use that was made of the route from the Lake of the Woods to the Red River by way of the Savanna Portage and the Roseau River, largely in Minnesota. Mr. Brown throws light on many aspects of the negotiations over the northern boundary at the end of the Revolution.

An effort is being made to recreate as nearly as possible the eighteenth-century town of Williamsburg, Virginia. During the Civil War the main building of the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg was burned and the library scattered. In some cases Federal soldiers picked up books and documents and took them away as souvenirs, and some of these have been found still in the possession of northern families. The architects who are restoring the old town and the college authorities are anxious to locate any such possessions, and anyone knowing of their existence has been asked to communicate with Dr. Earl G. Swem, librarian, College of William and Mary. Documents showing anything of past conditions of Williamsburg buildings will be especially welcome.

A somewhat unusual type of local history study is suggested in a little volume by Dora C. Jett entitled *Minor Sketches of Major Folk and Where They Sleep: The Old Masonic Burying Ground*,

*Fredericksburg, Virginia* (Richmond, 1928. 128 p.). The author has copied the inscriptions on the stones in this cemetery, arranged the names in alphabetical order, and, whenever possible, supplied brief sketches of the deceased persons. Miss Jett was formerly a member of the library staff of the Minnesota Historical Society.

On September 21 the Third United States Infantry, now stationed at Fort Snelling, celebrated with appropriate ceremonies the eighty-second anniversary of its participation in the battle of Monterey. A program and invitation issued in connection with the affair is of considerable interest, for it contains an historical sketch of "The Third Infantry through the Years" from 1784 to the present, lists of the "Regimental Commanders" and of the battles in which the regiment has participated, and numerous other items relating to its history.

*A Course of Study in Indian Life* has been outlined by Frances R. Dearborn, Ernest Horn, and Georgia M. Brown and issued by the University of Iowa as number 143 in its series of *Extension Bulletins* and number 18 in its *College of Education Series* (1926. 78 p.). In the introduction the authors point out that this is not a "formal outline to show how Indian history may be taught," but that it "represents the real procedures of a real group of children working under the guidance of a teacher . . . who earnestly attempted to stimulate these children toward careful thinking, sincere discussions, and accurate solutions of the problems raised." The problems are suggested in the form of questions, and they include discussion of Indian homes, food, clothing, utensils, weapons, music, and social life.

*The Indians of North Dakota*, their customs, social life, warfare, legends, and the like, are described by William M. Wemett in a little volume intended for the use of pupils in the grades (Fargo, 1927. 256 p.). The book is divided into two parts, the first dealing with "The Agricultural Tribes," of whom the Mandan are presented as the typical example; and the second with "The Nomadic Tribes," with emphasis upon the Sioux.

A summary of "The McNary-Haugen Movement" by John D. Black appears in the *American Economic Review* for Septem-

ber as a continuation of the same author's account of farm relief in the June issue (see *ante*, p. 305). Charts showing the geographical distribution of votes in the Senate and the House on the McNary-Haugen bills and a map illustrating the House vote of February, 1927, appear with the article.

An article entitled "Shall Our Farmers Become Peasants," by William E. Dodd, in the *Century Magazine* for May, presents "a vivid survey of commercial and agricultural America" and their relations from the American Revolution.

*The Agricultural Depression and Proposed Measures for Its Relief* is the title of a doctoral dissertation by Arthur M. Murphy, published by the Catholic University of America (Washington, D. C., 1926. 100 p.).

A popular account of the methods used during the last seventy-five years in the corn belt of America, by Glen A. Blackburn, is published under the title "Getting the Corn in the Ground" in *Wallaces' Farmer* (Des Moines) for May 4.

Numerous immigration problems and opportunities for the study of the general subject are suggested in the *Report* issued recently by the committee on scientific aspects of human migration of the Social Science Research Council (Chicago, 1927. 36 p.). Among the divisions of the subject considered by the committee in making its survey were emigration conditions in Europe and other continents, historical aspects of human migration, and social studies. A project considered by the committee but not actually worked out was a study of the "Immigrant in Agriculture," including a special study of the Scandinavians in Minnesota.

"Promotion of Immigration to the Pacific Northwest by the Railroads" is the title of a valuable study by James B. Hedges in the September issue of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*.

The reminiscences of the Reverend M. C. Jensen, a pastor of the Danish-Lutheran church in Clinton and Harlan, Iowa, and in Minneapolis from 1888 to 1894, are presented in a little volume entitled *En dansk-amerikansk prästs erindringer fra 1888-94* (Copenhagen, 1927. 127 p.).



Plans for a new building for the Chicago Historical Society are taking shape as the result of a bill passed by the Illinois legislature last February "authorizing the Lincoln Park Commissioners to allocate a site for a historical library and museum." A plot of ground in Lincoln Park was recently made available on condition that the erection of an historical building be completed within five years, and tentative plans have already been prepared.

The August issue of the *Indiana History Bulletin* is devoted to the "Historical Societies" of the state. It includes, besides a "Roster of Indiana Historical Societies," seventy-two in number, the state laws authorizing county commissioners to appropriate sums not to exceed ten thousand dollars for quarters for a county historical society, fifteen hundred annually for salaries and printing of such society, and one thousand dollars for the printing of a county World War history.

An article entitled "The Populating of Wisconsin," by Guy-Harold Smith, in the *Geographic Review* for July is a valuable contribution not only to the history of that state but also to the methodology of the study of settlement. It is accompanied by carefully executed dot maps showing in detail and very effectively the distribution of population in the state in 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1920. The next article, by the same author, is entitled "A Population Map of Ohio for 1920," and, with the accompanying map explains a striking method of depicting the distribution of urban population. Both of these articles have been issued as separates. Another article in this issue is on "Population, Food Supply, and American Agriculture," by O. E. Baker, and the section entitled "Geographical Record" contains a valuable bibliographical note on "Commerce on the Great Lakes and Connecting Waterways."

"A Forgotten Village" by Mrs. W. F. Pett in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for September is the story of La Pointe, Wisconsin, told in a charming manner. The author succeeds in revivifying the sleepy little summer resort and in restoring some of its former prestige. This village on Madeline Island in Lake Superior has a long and picturesque history reaching back at least to the days of Radisson and Groseilliers. As Mrs. Pett shows, it

was an important post during the French and British régimes. In 1834 it was made the chief western station of the American Fur Company. In that year and the next, instead of at the close of the War of 1812, as Mrs. Pett seems to indicate, the large warehouses were built and the "boom" began. She does not fail to describe the missions and missionaries on the island, but she does not stress adequately the fact that La Pointe was for many years headquarters for the missionaries at Fond du Lac, Yellow Lake, Grand Portage, Pokegama, Sandy Lake, Leech Lake and other points in the interior. Nor does she discuss that unique venture of the American Fur Company—the establishment of extensive fisheries on Lake Superior just after 1834. The center of that industry was La Pointe, where Lyman M. Warren and later Dr. Charles W. Borup superintended the making of staves and hoops, the salting of the fish, and the dispatching of hundreds of barrels to distant points in the United States. Had she utilized these facts, the author could have made even more impressive the important rôle formerly played by La Pointe.

Mr. Nils P. Haugen, whose "Pioneer and Political Reminiscences" are continued in the September issue of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, tells an interesting story about Senator Cushman K. Davis of Minnesota. After McKinley's election to the presidency, Mr. Haugen went to call on him at his home. "Some time before this visit I had called on Senator Davis, at his request, in St. Paul," he writes. "He knew I had served with McKinley and was on friendly terms with the President. He frankly stated that he had the ambition to become secretary of state. . . . He asked me to mention him to the President, and this I did." McKinley, however, explained that "one of the Minnesota Senators was very much opposed to Davis; so the state must be passed over." Another article in the September issue is an account of "Danish Settlement in Wisconsin" by Thomas P. Christensen, whose study of the Danes in Minnesota was published in the December, 1927, number of MINNESOTA HISTORY.

Two articles relating to the history of the Brule River in northern Wisconsin, once a link in a much-used canoe route between Lake Superior and the Mississippi, appear in the *Wisconsin Mag-*

*azine* for August. In the first, by Theodore T. Brown, "The Brule River Fight" between the Sioux and the Chippewa in 1841 is described; in the second, entitled "On the Storied Brule," O. W. Smith tells how Du Luth followed the stream in 1679. In the same issue a useful survey by Dr. Joseph Schafer appears under the heading "Wisconsin History Epitomized."

*Public Archives: A Manual for Their Administration in Iowa* is the title of a volume by Cassius C. Stiles recently published by the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa (Des Moines, 1928. 181 p.). Among the problems discussed are equipment, classification, indexing and calendaring, and expansion and storage; but the bulk of the volume is devoted to "Classification Outlines of Departments" of the state government. The *Manual* also is being published serially in the *Annals of Iowa*.

An account of "The Estherville Meteor," which fell in northwestern Iowa near the Minnesota boundary in 1879 and was observed by a number of Minnesotans, is contributed by Ben Hur Wilson to the September *Palimpsest*. A picture of a portion of the meteorite owned by the University of Minnesota is included, and the author relates how the "State of Minnesota obtained possession of . . . the only large piece of the Estherville meteor known to have been retained in America."

Three rare western pamphlets published originally at Yankton in Dakota Territory have recently been reprinted by Mr. Lawrence K. Fox, the superintendent of the South Dakota Department of History at Pierre. They are Moses K. Armstrong's *History and Resources of Dakota, Montana, and Idaho* (1866); George A. Batchelder's *Sketch of the History and Resources of Dakota Territory* (1870); and James S. Foster's *Outlines of History of the Territory of Dakota and Emigrant's Guide* (1870). The maps that accompanied the originals have not been reproduced in the reprints.

In a volume entitled *Reminiscent Reflections of a Youthful Octogenarian* (Minneapolis, 1928. 294 p.), the Reverend George H. Gerberding devotes several chapters to his experiences in Fargo, where he established an English Lutheran church in the

eighties, and describes his part in the founding of Concordia College at Moorehead.

Captain Fred A. Bill's history of "Navigation on the Red River of the North" is published in installments in the *Burlington [Iowa] Post* from June 30 to October 6. Much material appears here that is omitted in the series as published in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* (see *ante*, p. 190).

A story of adventure in the Red River region during the trying days of the Riel rebellion is related by Charles Mair in his "Memoirs and Reminiscences," reprinted from the *Toronto Star Weekly* of November 14, 1925, in the introductory pages of the author's *Tecumseh, a Drama, and Canadian Poems* (Toronto, 1926). Mair went west to the Red River settlements in the fall of 1868 as paymaster to a party of Canadian surveyors, whom he joined at Fort Abercrombie. In the fall of 1869 at St. Paul he met William McDougall, the newly appointed governor of Red River, and went with him to Pembina, where McDougall was stopped by Riel's followers. Mair, however, succeeded in making his way to Winnipeg, and he tells how he was imprisoned, how he finally escaped with a few companions, and how they crossed the border and went to Fort Abercrombie. From this point the refugees "passed on by stage to St. Cloud, then via St. Paul to Toronto," where they succeeded in arousing the government to organize the expedition "which brought relief to the oppressed loyalists of Red River."

The customs and social life of pioneer days in the Canadian Red River settlements are set forth in detail by the Reverend A. C. Garrioch in a volume entitled *First Furrows: A History of the Early Settlement of the Red River Country, Including that of Portage la Prairie* (Winnipeg, 1923). Relations with the Indians, especially with the fugitive Sioux from Minnesota after the massacre of 1862, are given thorough treatment. Church affairs bulked large in the life of Portage la Prairie, the hamlet where the author and his family lived, and a substantial part of the book is devoted to chronicling the characters, deeds, and activities of religious leaders. Occasional references to Red River trains and to commercial intercourse with St. Paul may be noted.

## GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

*Minnesota's State Parks and Monument Sites* are briefly described in a leaflet recently issued by State Auditor Ray P. Chase. A section is devoted to "Proposed Parks" and the suggestion is made that "a complete system should include many of the old fur trading posts of the state."

Under the title "Earthern Mounds in Cannon River Valley Held to be Work of Prehistoric Indians," a paper read by Professor E. W. Schmidt of Northfield before a meeting of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society in December, 1908, is published in the *Independent* of Northfield for September 27. Portions of the paper were printed earlier in Winchell's *Aborigines of Minnesota*.

A brief sketch of "Mounds, Etc., in the Nett Lake-Rainy Lake Country of Minnesota" by Albert B. Reagan appears in the *Wisconsin Archeologist* for July. In addition to mounds, it tells of caches, pottery, and artifacts found in this vicinity. This issue contains also a list of the "Plants Used by the Bois Fort Chippewa (Ojibwa) Indians of Minnesota," with short explanations of their uses, and a Chippewa legend entitled "The Magic Pots" by the same author, who was superintendent of the Bois Fort Indian Reservation from 1909 to 1914.

Mrs. Ellen Allanson, a daughter of Joseph R. Brown, recalls her father's interest in the treaty of Traverse des Sioux in an interview published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 22. "He could not get away to be present at the councils at Traverse de Sioux," according to Mrs. Allanson, but "he discussed the negotiations in detail with Henry H. Sibley, Alexander Ramsey and others, and speculated as to the outcome." She also recalls that as soon as the terms of the treaty of 1851 became known, Brown "made plans for a settlement up the Minnesota river."

The visit of Mr. C. C. Herriman of Des Moines, Iowa, to the site of the Gull Lake Indian agency, where his grandfather, Major D. B. Herriman, was the agent in 1853, is the occasion for the publication of an article about the history of the agency in the

*Brainerd Dispatch* for September 7. Attention is called to the fact that the remains of the agency buildings have been located by Mr. T. B. Croswell of Brainerd.

A trip by monoplane over a section of the old Red River trail through the Twin Cities to Anoka was the experience on June 25 of Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, and Mr. Ion R. Patch of Minneapolis, a pioneer who knew the trail in the days when it was used for ox-cart travel. Accounts of the trip and some reminiscences of Mr. Patch are published in the *St. Paul Dispatch* and the *Minneapolis Star* for June 26.

From a note in *Agricultural History* for April (p. 106), it appears that a transcript of the manuscript "Recollections of a Quartermaster," by General William G. Le Duc, is in the library of the department of agriculture at Washington. General Le Duc was commissioner of agriculture from 1877 to 1881 and was a citizen of Minnesota from 1850 until his death in 1917 (see *ante*, 3: 57-65).

An obituary sketch of "Willet Martin Hays, a Threefold Pioneer" appears as an editorial in the June issue of the *Experiment Station Record*, a publication of the United States department of agriculture (vol. 58, no. 8). Hays, who served as assistant secretary of agriculture from 1905 to 1913, was identified with the college of agriculture of the University of Minnesota from 1888 to 1892 and again from 1894 to 1904 and was one of the organizers of the Minnesota Field Crops Breeders' Association.

President Coolidge was the principal speaker at the dedication at Cannon Falls on July 29 of a memorial to Colonel William Colvill, commander of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. The memorial, which was erected by the 135th Minnesota Infantry, was unveiled by Mrs. Coolidge. In his address the President briefly recalled the exploits of Colonel Colvill and his regiment at Gettysburg, declaring that "in all the history of warfare this charge has few, if any, equals and no superiors."

The address has been published in pamphlet form by the government printing office (5 p.).

Under the provisions of an act passed by the 1927 legislature, Governor Christianson has appointed Mr. Frederic R. Bigelow, Mrs. Charles E. Furness, and Mr. Louis W. Hill of St. Paul, and Mr. John R. Van Derlip and Mr. Winthrop B. Chamberlain of Minneapolis to serve on a commission to raise funds for a Ramsey memorial on the Capitol grounds.

On September 24 the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled at Mendota a boulder to which is attached a bronze plate bearing the following inscription: "Mendota: in the language of the Sioux means the mouth of a river; was the earliest permanent white settlement in southern Minnesota; a pioneer center of the fur trade. Near here were signed treaties with the Indians in 1805 — 1837 — 1851 ceding to the whites most of the lands in Minnesota. Fort Snelling was established on this side of the river in 1819. This region was long known as Saint Peters. Sibley House: Three blocks northeast from here stands the oldest house in Minnesota, built in 1835 by General Henry Hastings Sibley, first governor of the state 1858-1859; restored by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, maintained by them as a museum. Tablet erected by the Minnesota Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, September 24, 1928."

#### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The story of David Smith on whose land the village of Mapleton was platted after the coming of the railroad necessitated a removal from the original site on the Maple River, is featured in a "Golden Anniversary Edition" of the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* of Mapleton, issued on August 17. Other articles in the number deal with various phases of community history. An interesting example of activity on the part of a particular race group is to be found in an account of the Blue Earth Valley Burns Club, organized by the Scotch element in Mapleton and Sterling in 1867. An article entitled "From Lean-to Shanty to Modern School" outlines the story of education in Mapleton; the history of the

various local churches is combined in a long article; the development of telephone service in Blue Earth County is traced; early-day postal service, when mail reached Mapleton by stage coach, is recalled; and cattle raising in the region in pioneer times is described. The issue is well illustrated with pictures of early landmarks, such as the first store and the first school, and with portraits of pioneers.

A number of articles relating to the history and the commercial development of New Ulm appear in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 30 on a page devoted to "Industrial Minnesota." One sketch tells of the "Roller Mill Founded When Indians Roamed Land" in 1857; the title of another announces that "New Ulm Combines Glories of Past and Enterprise of Today in Setting of Scenic Grandeur."

Mr. C. W. Smith of Minneapolis, who settled near Iberia in 1856, recalls some of his experiences as a Brown County pioneer in an interview published in the *New Ulm Review* for August 1.

An outline of the early history of Tansem Township, Clay County, by S. P. Anderson, is published in the *Hawley Herald* for July 12. It traces the progress of the township for a number of years after 1870, when the first settlers, John Tansem and Iver Ranum, arrived.

Scenes from the history of Douglas County were shown in a pageant presented in connection with the county fair at Alexandria on August 23, 24, and 25.

Mrs. George Hopp of Northfield presents her "Earliest Memories of Carimona" in the *Preston Republican* for July 26 and August 9 and 16. In concluding she mentions the old Carimona hotel register owned by the Minnesota Historical Society and suggests that anyone having other Carimona material send it to the society for preservation.

More than a hundred descendants of Buttolf G. Tistel gathered at the home of Mr. M. J. Hermanson of Albert Lea on August 5, when they formed a permanent organization and made plans for compiling a genealogy of the Tistel family.



Members of the congregation of the Excelsior Community Congregational Church, founded in June, 1853, on Lake Minnetonka by the Reverend Charles Galpin, celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on July 15, 16, and 17. A sketch of the history of the church appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 10.

Extracts from a letter of John F. Longley to a friend in Ohio, written from Glencoe on July 16, 1871, after the writer had been inspecting the region around Glencoe, New Auburn, and Le Sueur apparently with a view to settling in this section of Minnesota, are quoted in the *Le Sueur News-Herald* for September 12 in one of a series of local history articles that are appearing in this paper. Some of the other sketches deal with the early history of Ottawa, July 11; an expedition under Captain George Tousley organized in 1862 to rescue a group of Sioux War refugees, August 15; and the early settlement and naming of Derryname Township, September 5.

A "committee of the Union club on marking historical spots in the vicinity of Hutchinson" has selected a number of sites to be marked with bronze plates attached to boulders. The spot where Little Crow met his death and the scenes of two tragedies of the Sioux War are to be marked in this way. In addition a bell used in the old Pendergast Academy, which was burned by the Indians in 1862, is to be placed on a permanent pedestal for preservation.

In a special "McLeod County Fair Edition" of the *Hutchinson Press*, issued on September 18, a number of articles dealing with the economic development of the locality are published. Among these is an account of the growth of dairying in McLeod County; an outline of the commercial development of Glencoe; and histories of a number of banks and business houses in the towns of the region.

Among the articles in a local history series appearing in the *Hutchinson Leader* is an account of the founding of the *Leader* in 1880, September 7; and a description of the "Early Day Annual Fair with Balloon Ascension," September 21.

A series of local history sketches by Win V. Working that has been appearing of late in the *Glencoe Enterprise* includes an outline of the history of the village of Plato, July 19; an account of the early settlement of Helen Township, August 9; and a description of the fur-trade activities that centered at New Auburn in the sixties, August 30.

The fiftieth anniversary of the completion of the tracks of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, now part of the Great Northern, to Argyle, is noted in an article giving some of the history of the locality in the *Marshall County Banner* of Argyle for September 6.

In a pageant presented under the auspices of the Murray County Farm Bureau at Tepeeotah on August 22, 23, and 24, scenes from the history of Murray County, including the Lake Shetek Indian massacre, were reenacted.

At a meeting called in connection with the Nicollet County Fair at St. Peter on August 22 the first steps toward the organization of a Nicollet County historical society were taken. A temporary organization was formed, of which Judge Henry Moll was elected chairman and Miss Laura Laumann, secretary-treasurer. These officers were given the power to appoint a board of five governors, who will be expected to draw up a constitution, conduct a membership drive, and arrange for the first meeting of the new society. A registration booth was maintained at the fair and a hundred members were obtained for the organization. The meeting on August 22 was addressed by General William C. Brown of Denver, Colorado, who was born at Traverse des Sioux and has been cooperating with Mr. Thomas Hughes of Mankato in the preparation of a history of "Old Traverse des Sioux," which the Herald Publishing Company of St. Peter has in press.

Over five hundred people attended the annual meeting at Fort Ridgely of the Fort Ridgely State Park and Historical Association on August 23. Among the speakers was Captain Albert Steinhauser of New Ulm, who told the story of the defense of New Ulm in the Sioux War of 1862.

Brief biographies of members of the Mayo family and historical sketches of St. Mary's Hospital and of the Mayo Clinic of Roch-

ester are included in a recently issued *Supplement to the History of the Rochester Old School Boys and Girls Association* (see *ante*, p. 198).

The annual report of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, dated October 18, a copy of which has been filed with the Minnesota Historical Society, reveals that this organization has been unusually active during the past year. It now has forty-four members; it has purchased a case which has been "placed in the farmer's room at the courthouse for display of articles owned by the society," and, according to present plans, will change these exhibits about four times a year; it has secured space in the courthouse for storing its collections and is preserving here the files of seven Otter Tail County newspapers; it has appointed "corresponding secretaries" in fifty-six divisions of the county. In addition to these activities the society held two meetings in 1928 — one at Clitherall on July 1 (see *ante*, p. 310), and the other at Fergus Falls on October 18. Some of the papers read at the earlier meeting were published in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* of July 2, and reprints were "made at small expense, which were sent to members of the society as the first publication of the society." At the Fergus Falls meeting Dr. O. N. Nelson of Battle Lake, Mr. Anton Thompson of Fergus Falls, and Mrs. W. L. Patterson of Fergus Falls were reelected president, vice president, and secretary respectively and Mr. E. E. Adams of Fergus Falls was elected treasurer.

A brief history of Pope County by Nels E. Nelson appears in the *Pope County Tribune* of Glenwood for July 5. It gives an interesting picture of the Red River trail and the cart trade that passed through Pope County in pioneer days. The writer's contention that Stockholm, supposedly the first county seat, "never existed in Pope County" is answered by County Auditor L. M. Landing in the *Tribune* for July 12. He quotes a document dated February 12, 1867, on file in his office, in which the governor proclaims in effect a law for the "removal of the County Seat of Pope County from Stockholm to Glenwood." The *Tribune* of July 5 also includes some recollections of pioneer days in Pope County by Hans Johnshoy of Starbuck.

The operation of the first train between St. Paul and White Bear village on September 10, 1868, is recalled in an article that notes the sixtieth anniversary of the event in the *White Bear Press* of September 6. Extensive quotations from contemporary St. Paul newspapers describe this first trip, which took five hundred people as guests of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad to an "excursion picnic at White Bear." The importance of the event to the pioneer resort may be judged by the fact that the visitors were greeted "with firing of cannon, cheering by men, and waving of handkerchiefs by ladies."

More than a hundred and fifty people attended the summer meeting of the Rice County Historical Society at Morristown on July 23. The formal program included papers by Mrs. P. W. Gorie on "The Founding of Morristown and Its Early History" and by Mr. A. C. Richter on early days in the community. These papers appear in a "Special Historical Edition" of the *Morristown Press* issued on July 23 in connection with the meeting. The issue includes also an account of the early history of Warsaw, sketches of some of the pioneers of the region, and a statement about the work of the local historical society.

The history of northeastern Minnesota was traced in the Head of the Lakes Historical Pageant presented at Duluth under the auspices of the David Wisted post of the American Legion on July 31 and August 1, 2, and 3.

Among the sketches of pioneer life in Scott County that have been appearing recently in the *Shakopee Argus-Tribune* are an account of the first construction of "board sidewalks" in Shakopee, July 26; a list of the Scott County men who served with the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, August 2; and some of the recollections of Mrs. Susan Allen of Savage about early days in Credit River Township, September 6.

A history of the Church of the Transfiguration of Belle Plaine was read at the celebration on September 5 of the fifty-sixth anniversary of its consecration. A sketch published in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for August 30 reveals that the church traces its history back to 1855, when the first Episcopal services held in

the community were conducted by the Reverend Timothy Wilcoxson. Other names connected with the story of the pioneer congregation are those of Bishop Kemper and the Reverend E. Steele Peake.

A sketch based upon the entries in an old account book kept by Thomas Doheny "when he operated a warehouse and store on the river bank opposite the Jessenland church" in the fifties is published in the *Belle Plaine Herald* of July 12 as one of a series of local history articles by Win V. Working. The early settlement of Gotha and pioneer life there among the Swedish settlers are described in the articles for July 26 and August 2.

St. Jude's Episcopal Church of Henderson celebrated with appropriate services on July 31 the fifty-fifth anniversary of the consecration of its building by Bishop Whipple in 1873. The history of this congregation, however, begins at a much earlier date, for it was organized in 1856 by the missionary, E. Steele Peake.

At the Monson Lake Memorial Park near Sunburg the second annual program commemorating the massacre of thirteen pioneers of this vicinity during the Sioux War of 1862 was presented on August 19 under the auspices of the Monson Lake Memorial Association.

An organization known as the Todd County Old Settlers' Historical Society was formed at Long Prairie on August 24. On July 5 the *Long Prairie Leader*, coöperating with the leaders of the movement to form this society, published requests that the names of the first settlers and of the oldest living resident of each township in the county be sent to the newspaper. As a result many interviews and letters relating to pioneers and the early settlement of the county were published in the *Leader* during the summer.

Items about the village of St. Michael published in the *Buffalo Journal* of September 6 include an account of the incorporation of the village in 1889 and some recollections of Mr. Emil Gutzwiller, who has lived in the vicinity since 1856.

The issue of the *Canby News* for September 7 is a "Golden Anniversary Edition" commemorating the passing of fifty years since the paper was founded by Addison M. Morrison. A sketch of the founder and some recollections of his wife appear on the front page of the issue. Other articles of historical interest in the number include an account of the "Beginnings of the Canby Community" by Mrs. Samuel Lewison; a sketch of the first school, established in 1877, as recalled by the teacher, Mr. Andrew Ouverson; and a description of the fire that swept the business section in 1893, reprinted from the *News* of the time. Among the illustrations are a picture of a sod house and a view of Canby in 1881.

Three articles describing the growth of the Twin Cities and their development as a metropolitan center appear in the *Review of Reviews* for July. In the first Howard Elliott gives an account of the region for which these cities form the gateway, "The Great Northwest." He uses the term in its broad sense, including Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon in his survey. Since Mr. Elliott was chairman of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, his chief interest was naturally in the transportation facilities that have given this region a certain unity, and he sketches the growth of the railroads between Minnesota and the Pacific coast from 1870, when Jay Cooke began his operations at Duluth. "Minneapolis: Industrial Capital of the Northwest" is described by Henry Adams Bellows, who emphasizes the importance of wheat and lumber in the development of the Mill City. In surveying the cultural progress of the city he writes: "Observe how at every point we get back again to the beginning of our story: wheat and lumber." He tells how Mr. Elbert L. Carpenter, a lumberman, "and the group of citizens which he has rallied about him, have entitled the Minneapolis orchestra to a high position among America's musical organizations"; how "at the University, Pillsbury Hall stands as one of the many memorials to Governor John S. Pillsbury" of milling fame; and how "the Walker Art Gallery represents the wise exchange of lumber for paintings." In the article on "St. Paul: Trade and Transportation Center of the Northwest," Herbert Lefkovitz tells a story of oxcarts, steamboats, and locomotives. He relates that "on the

same day in 1862 on which the first locomotive whistle in St. Paul sounded the commencement of a new order, one of these caravans of forty carts reached the city with \$15,000 worth of furs, moccasins and dried buffalo tongue." The contrasts between the two cities are well summarized by Mr. Bellows in one brief statement—"from Nicollet Avenue to Robert Street you have 'gone East.'"

A sketch of the history of Stanley Hall, a girl's boarding school established in 1890 in Minneapolis, appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 20. It calls attention to the fact that the buildings occupied by the school, which closed its doors five years ago, are being demolished.

An interesting use of historical materials for advertising purposes is being made by the Merchants National Bank and the Merchants Trust Company of St. Paul in a leaflet published occasionally under the title *Today and Yesterday in Saint Paul*. Each number includes a picture accompanied by a brief sketch of some landmark, person, or activity of importance in the early history of the city. The originals of most of the pictures are in the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society.



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